ATLAS
JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY
JOURNEY INTO
AUG.
MYSTERY
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
10¢
NO. 37
ALL NEW MYSTERIES
"THE VOLCANO!" WHAT WAS ITS SECRET?

Come on, Buddy, Quit being A BAG-of-BONES Weakling like I was

IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY **YOU Can do ALL I did!**

I gained **25** Terrific LBS. of **HANDSOME POWER-PACKED MUSCLES** all over!

I improved my **HE-MAN LOOKS 1000%**

I won **NEW STRENGTH** for money-making work! for WINNING at all SPORTS!

I won **NEW POPULARITY** Won NEW FRIENDS, BOYS & GIRLS NEW CHANCES for BUSINESS SUCCESS

Hi Pal! **Win $100** as I just did!

"I'm PROUD to be seen with Jim NOW! Everybody admires his build," says Nellie. "Jim can lift the front of a 2700 lb. car. He amazes his friends!"

You'll be A Real ATHLETE in ALL SPORTS Soon after YOU mail Coupon.

Jim is a WINNER in ALL SPORTS NOW. YOU will be, too, soon.

How did I do ALL This? I mailed the Coupon and got These **5** PICTURE-PACKED HE-MAN COURSES Which YOU can NOW get FREE! BEFORE $1 PRICE GOES BACK Millions Sold for $1

I gained 60 lbs. of muscles,
says John Sill
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
1
"I added 7 inches to my CHEST 3 inches to each ARM," says Jobie Jackson
2
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY ARM
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
3
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY BACK
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
4
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP
By GEORGE F. JOWETT
5
HOW TO MOLD MIGHTY LEGS
By GEORGE F. JOWETT

GET ALL 5 FREE

COME ON, PAL, NOW YOU give me 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR OWN HOME like Jim did and I'll give YOU A NEW HE-MAN BODY for your OLD SKELETON FRAME

"Congratulations, John! At last you mailed the coupon as EVERY MAN should. Soon You'll be as big and strong as I am," says Jim Norman to John Luckus

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are I'll make you OVER by the SAME method I turned myself from a wreck to the strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to your ARMS and CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels you'll gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

YOU CAN WIN a BIG 15" SILVER CUP as I just did! with YOUR NAME engraved on it!

JIM NORMAN

AFTER

He Mailed Coupon

Below is Cleveland

BEFORE

He Mailed Coupon

90 lb. Skeleton

He says, **I gained 70 lbs. of mighty muscle**

Mail the "ALL FREE" coupon get this "AMAZING SECRETS" Photo Book

You'll LOOK, FEEL, ACT, like A Real HE-MAN! Win Women and Men Friends. Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.

This BOOK will also show You HOW YOU CAN WIN $100.00 and a BIG 15" tall SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)

LAST CHANCE - ALL FREE COUPON

1. FIVE COURSES 2. MUSCLE METER 3. Photo Book of STRONG MEN

Dept. MA-67

Tell Me How To WIN $100, etc.

"Jowett Courses greatest in World for Building All Around HE-MAN" — 9 ft. Kellers Physical Director

JOWETT INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL TRAINING
220 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs. Now all in One Volume "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED FIND 10c FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING on C.O.D.'s!

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

SAVES you YEARS and DOLLARS!!!

Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

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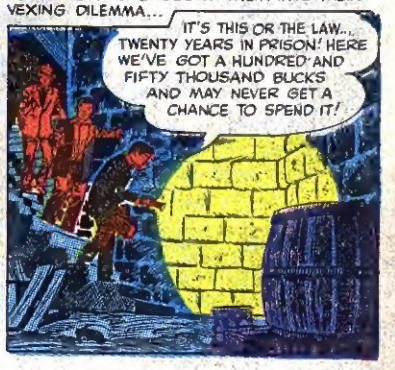
SIRENS WAILED IN THE NIGHT! THREE MEN FELT THE DRAGNET CLOSING IN ABOUT THEM! THERE WAS BUT ONE ESCAPE, BUT IT WAS FANTASTIC, FRAUGHT WITH DANGER!

the DEEP FREEZE

RICK MORROW CLUNG TO THE BAG WHOSE CONTENTS HAD BROUGHT THEM INTO THEIR VEXING DILEMMA...

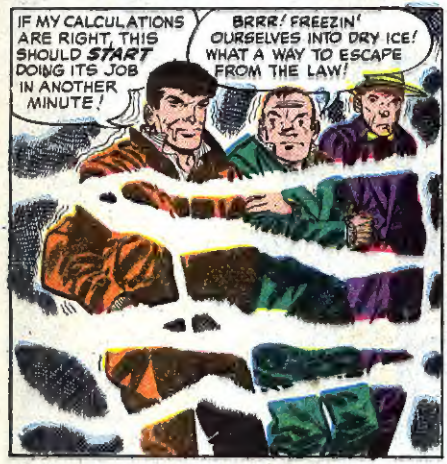

IT'S THIS OR THE LAW... TWENTY YEARS IN PRISON! HERE WE'VE GOT A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND BUCKS AND MAY NEVER GET A CHANCE TO SPEND IT!

OUTSIDE, THE SIRENS TONED DOWN TO A LOW MOAN, THEN STOPPED! ABOVE CAME THE CRUNCHING OF A WOODEN DOOR, THE TRAMPING OF FEET...

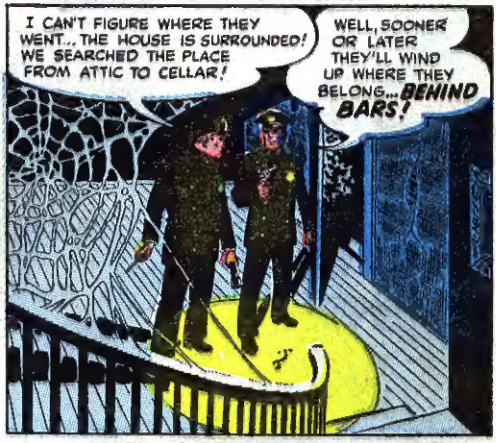
CLOSING THE CONCEALED DOOR BEHIND THEM, BIFF AND MIKE FOLLOWED RICK TO THE SMALL SUB-CELLAR ROOM...

THE POLICE KNOW WE'RE IN THIS HIDE-OUT! THEY CAN STARVE US OUT... OR, WE CAN GO INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION LIKE I WAS TELLING YOU...
OKAY, WE GOT NO CHOICE, BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?

I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY... I READ ABOUT IT ONCE AND HAD THIS LAYOUT SET UP DOWN HERE! SEE, THAT'S CARBON DIOXIDE COMING OUT OF THE PIPE!
DRY ICE! WE GOT TO GO THRU THIS! THE POLICE ARE PROBABLY ON OUR HEELS RIGHT NOW!


IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE RIGHT, THIS SHOULD START DOING ITS JOB IN ANOTHER MINUTE!
BRRR! FREEZIN' OURSELVES INTO DRY ICE! WHAT A WAY TO ESCAPE FROM THE LAW!

ABOVE, THE POLICE WERE BEWILDERED...


I CAN'T FIGURE WHERE THEY WENT... THE HOUSE IS SURROUNDED! WE SEARCHED THE PLACE FROM ATTIC TO CELLAR!
WELL, SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL WIND UP WHERE THEY BELONG... BEHIND BARS!

THE INSULATED, TANK-LIKE SUB-CELLAR REMAINED A SOLID BLOCK OF DRY ICE FOR MANY YEARS! EVAPORATING SLOWLY, IT MADE ROOM FOR AIR TO SEEP IN...

AT LAST, WHEN THE LAST TRACE OF DRY ICE HAD VANISHED...

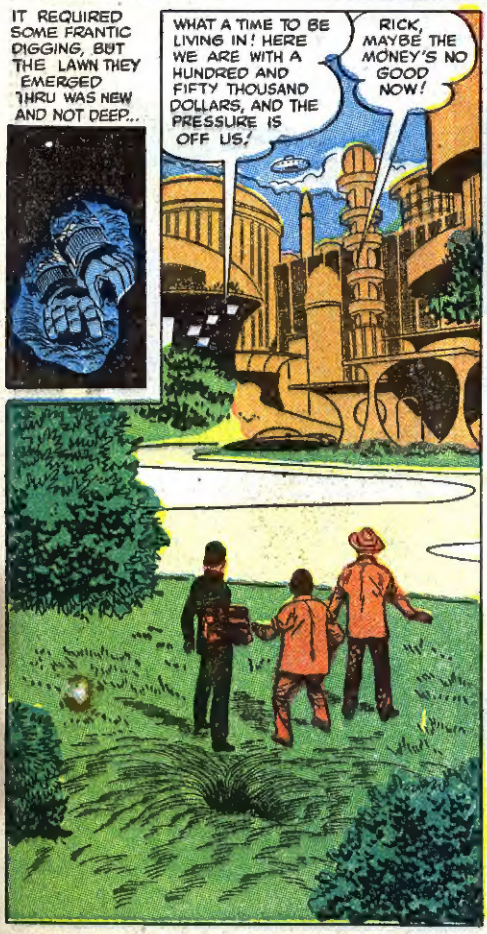
IT'S COMING BACK, TO ME! MIKE! RICK! THE POLICE... I DON'T HEAR 'EM UP THERE!
IT WORKED! WE STOPPED EXISTING FOR A WHILE! NOW THE DRY ICE HAS GONE! WE'RE OKAY AGAIN!

RICK'S FLASHLIGHT DIDN'T WORK! THE THREE MADE THEIR WAY OUT OF THE SUB-CELLAR BY MATCHLIGHT...

THAT'S FUNNY...WHERE'D ALL THOSE NEWSPAPERS COME FROM?
I DON'T KNOW, RICK! I JUST WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE! I FEEL LIKE I HAVEN'T SEEN DAYLIGHT FOR MONTHS!

THE DATE ON THIS PAPER IS 2156! WE WERE IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS!
MAYBE WE'RE TRAPPED UNDER HERE! MAYBE THE HOUSE HAS CAVED IN OR A HIGHWAY IS PAVED OVER IT!
WORLD NEWS
JULY 7, 2156
MARS INVASION FORESEEN BY STATE DEPARTMENT'S

IT REQUIRED SOME FRANTIC DIGGING, BUT THE LAWN THEY EMERGED THRU WAS NEW AND NOT DEEP...


WHAT A TIME TO BE LIVING IN! HERE WE ARE WITH A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, AND THE PRESSURE IS OFF US!
RICK, MAYBE THE MONEY'S NO GOOD NOW!

YEAH, MAYBE MONEY HAS CHANGED... I'LL FIND OUT! THE WAY PEOPLE ARE LOOKING AT US, WE'D BETTER GET SOME NEW CLOTHES!
RIGHT... IF THE MONEY'S NO GOOD, THE STORES'LL KNOW, AND THEY WON'T TAKE IT!

BEFORE LONG, THEIR GREATEST WORRY WAS OVER...

THEY STARTED AT ONCE TO SPEND THEIR LOOT...

WE'LL TAKE THE BIGGEST CAR YOU'VE GOT IN THE SHOP, FRIEND!
YOUR LANGUAGE IS STRANGE, BUT I BELIEVE YOU WANT TO BUY A MOBILE JETWAGON!

THEY LOOKED AT THE BEST APARTMENTS...

THEY SPENT MONEY FREELY. EASY COME, EASY GO!

THINGS ARE SURE A LOT DIFFERENT THAN THEY WERE BACK IN FIFTY-SIX!
YOU MEN ARE SO AMUSING! BACK IN FIFTY-SIX! THIS IS TWENTY-ONE-FIFTY-SIX, OR HAVE I LOST A YEAR SOMEWHERE?

EVERYTHING WENT ALONG FINE FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS! THEN, ONE DAY...

THERE WERE QUESTIONS BY THE FEDERAL ATTORNEY, THEN AN INDICTMENT AND TRIAL! THRU IT ALL THEY LIVED IN A DAZE, BEWILDERED BY THE IRONIC TURN OF EVENTS...

ONLY AFTER A FEW DAYS BEHIND BARS, WERE THEY ABLE TO REALIZE THE FULL IMPORT OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THEM...

TWENTY YEARS IN PRISON.. AND I THOUGHT WE WERE REALLY IN THE CLEAR!
WHAT CHUMPS! IMAGINE US STEALING A SUITCASE FULL OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY!
1804

Price only

$1.00

FUN FOR BOYS

The most wonderful book for boys ever put together!

Here's a treasure chest of enjoyable and interesting pastimes and sports — hobbies and games for every active youngster. No end to the things to do and fun to enjoy. Contains

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Price only

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Master Ju-Jitsu and you'll be able to overcome any attack — win any fight!

You, too, can be tough! You can defeat any man in a fight. This is what this book promises you! *Lightning Ju-Jitsu* will equip you with a powerful defense and counter-attack against any bully, attacker or enemy. It is equally effective and easy to use by any man or woman, boy or girl—and you don't need big muscles or weight to apply. Technique and the know-how does the trick. This book gives you all the secrets, grips, pressures, which are so effective in quickly "putting an attacker out of business".

Just follow the illustrations and easy directions, practice the grips, holds and movements—and you'll fear no man. 96 pages—dozens of illustrations and only—$1.00.

Price only

$1.00

LEARN TO DANCE—At Home

Don't envy dancers. Be one. Enjoy life, dancing. Be popular. Others do, why not you? Here is a simple and complete guide that shows you how you can teach yourself to become a good dancer, easily and quickly. Fully illustrated with a dancing couple, showing you each step and movement—with foot-prints showing just how feet move—and with complete written information and advice on leading and following, rhythm, posture, etiquette, etc.

AMAZING BARGAIN: Set of three books—

HOW TO DANCE—covers popular ballroom dancing—The Waltz, Hesitation, Savoy, La Bomba, The Rhumba, Black Bottom, Charleston, Fox-Trot, Tango, Promenade, El Charonne, The Polka, etc.

SWING STEPS—covers today's exciting swing rhythms—The Swing Break, Snake Hips, Shim, Sham, Shimmy, The Suzi-Q, The Westchester, Trucking, The Peabody, etc.

SQUARE DANCING—covers popular country dancing—Square Sets, Quadrilles, Running Sets, Play-Games, Round Dances; sample dances are Wagon Wheel, Virginia Reel, Mountaineer, Lily White Hands, Gal from Arkansas, Birdie in a Cage, etc.

You can learn a basic step in one hour, a complete dance in one evening. From then on it is just practice and dancing. Get in the fun! Send for these easy, home-study dance lessons NOW! Only $1.00

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In ONE DAY You'll Be Able to Perform a Ventriloquial Skit!!

How would YOU like to be able to perform ventriloquism? It would give you lots of fun and pleasure! Brand new book—VENTRILOQUISM MADE EASY, by John Mendoza—reveals all the methods and secrets in the art of "throwing your voice". This book takes away all the mystery—shows you just how the voice is made to appear to come from some other place—how to handle all different words, phrases, and sentences—how your actions and acting help in the make-believe—how to make your voice sound different when impersonating a boy or girl, a man or woman, a horse, dog or other being—how to develop props and appearances—how to select and have made a suitable figure or dummy to work with—how to learn the patter and also a stage manner—how to give a competent, complete performance—and much more! And that is not all—

FREE WITH EVERY ORDER FOR THIS BOOK: Book of 100 AMUSEMENTS. Gives you a series of party and professional stunts, tricks, magic, songs, jokes, patter! Will make you popular and a real entertainer! And the price COMPLETE IS ONLY $1.00

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GAME KIT

With every order, we will include without extra charge, a complete assortment of 10 GAMES, TRICKS, PUZZLES. Can be played by 1, 2, 3, 4 or more players. Just the thing for hours and days of enjoyable fun. It is given FREE with every order. Supply is limited. ORDER NOW!

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( ) I enclose $ _____ in payment. Send postage free.

( ) Send C.O.D. for $ _____ plus shipping costs.

Name _____

Address _____

City and Zone _____ State _____

PAUL WAYNE FELL INTO PERFECTION...INTO A TOWN LONG LOST AND FORGOTTEN BY THE WORLD! IT WAS PAUL'S ATTEMPT TO **IMPROVE** ON THIS PERFECTION THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE CATASTROPHE THAT WAS DESTINED TO CHANGE HIS LIFE!

VOLCANO!

PAUL WAYNE! I JUST CAN'T GET OVER IT...THE WAY YOU LOOK! WHY, UNTIL THAT TIME YOU DISAPPEARED, I ENVIED YOU! THE BRIGHTEST ENGINEER IN OUR COMPANY... BIG FUTURE! COME ON, PAUL, LET ME BUY YOU A SANDWICH AND A CUP OF COFFEE! I'VE GOT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THIS!
ALL RIGHT, RICHARD... THERE'S NO REASON WHY YOU SHOULDN'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!
COFFEE SHOP
LUNCHEON
JBHZ

THERE WAS NONE OF THE OLD FIRE IN PAUL WAYNE'S VOICE AS HE SPOKE, YET RICHARD COLVIN LISTENED EAGERLY...
IT WAS TO BE MY REGULAR MONTH'S VACATION, A HELICOPTER TRIP INTO MEXICO! I WAS FLYING OVER MOUNT POPOCATEPETL, THE VOLCANO, WHEN IT HAPPENED...

"IT DRAGGED ME DOWN RELENTLESSY INTO THE BLACK ABYSS! I MANAGED A MINOR CRACK-UP LANDING ON A LEDGE WITHIN THE VOLCANO..."

IT'D BE A RISKY CLIMB UP! THE TUNNEL MIGHT OFFER AN EASIER WAY OUT!

"I FOLLOWED THE CURVE OF THE TUNNEL AND SUDDENLY IT OPENED UPON THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL TOWN I'VE EVER SEEN..."

"I MADE MY WAY DOWN THE SLOPE OF POPOCATEPETL... I SPOKE IN SPANISH TO A MAN..."

THIS TOWN IS LA PALOMA! THE DOVE! AN APPROPRIATE NAME!

SI, SENOR... PEACEFUL LIKE THE DOVE!

I'VE NEVER SEEN HAPPIER, MORE CONTENTED PEOPLE! AND NO MODERN CONVENIENCES, NOT EVEN RUNNING WATER! IT'S AN ENGINEER'S DREAM!

"I STARTED MODERNIZING...I SHOWED THE PEOPLE HOW TO MAKE PIPES FROM CLAY, TO BRING WATER INTO THE TOWN..."

"SOON WHAT I OFFERED THEM FIRED THEIR IMAGINATIONS! I HAD STREETS TORN UP TO LAY PIPES...FRUIT ORCHARDS WERE REMOVED TO MAKE WAY FOR A SUPERMARKET... I TOOK PARTS FROM MY HELICOPTER, THE BATTERY AND GENERATOR, TO INTRODUCE ELECTRICITY..."

SENOR, I AM PEDRO ALVAREZ, GOVERNOR OF LA PALOMA!

OH, THEN YOU'LL BE INTERESTED IN THIS! YOU'LL WANT A PLANT TO LIGHT UP THE WHOLE TOWN!

IT IS SUCH THINGS I WISH TO DISCUSS WITH YOU, SENOR WAYNE! I SHALL EXPECT YOU AT MY PALACE AT FOUR O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON!
I'LL BE THERE, GOVERNOR ALVAREZ!

"THE GOVERNOR WAS THE FIRST MAN I'D SEEN IN LA PALOMA WHO DID NOT SMILE! I KEPT MY APPOINTMENT WITH HIM..."
THESE THINGS, THEY WILL BRING EVIL TO THIS TOWN, TO MY PEOPLE!
BUT THAT'S NONSENSE, GOVERNOR! I'M ONLY HELPING MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR THEM!

I BEG YOU TO STOP BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!
YOU WILL HAVE TO FORGIVE MY FATHER, SENOR WAYNE! THE SLIGHTEST HINT OF CHANGE IN OUR TOWN UPSETS HIM! THE PEOPLE ARE MOST HAPPY WITH WHAT YOU ARE DOING FOR THEM!

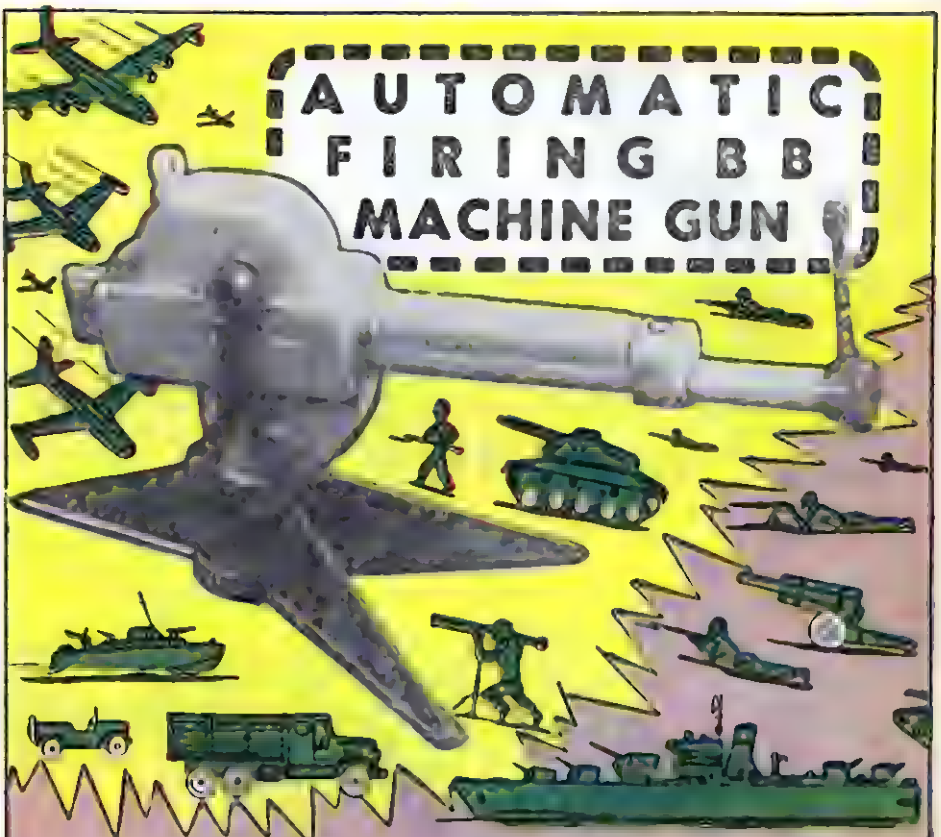
"THAT WAS MY FIRST MEETING WITH JUANITA ALVAREZ, AND THE BEGINNING OF THE MOST HAPPY MOMENTS OF MY LIFE! WE SOON FELL IN LOVE..."
YOU'VE BECOME A GREAT HERO WITH THE PEOPLE, PAUL! THEY'RE EXCITED ABOUT BUSINESS AND BUILDING!
THE ONLY ONE WHO'S NOT PLEASED IS YOUR FATHER!

"AND THAT WAS THE NIGHT THE VOLCANO BEGAN TO RUMBLE! IT SPOKE SOFTLY AT FIRST..."
YOU HEAR, SENOR WAYNE? MY PEOPLE ARE LEARNING EVIL WAYS! POPOCATEPETL IS BECOMING ANGRY!
YOU'RE ANGRY, GOVERNOR, BECAUSE I'M BRINGING CIVILIZATION TO A TOWN THAT'S BEEN LOST FROM THE WORLD!

"BUT THE VOLCANO KEPT RUMBLING, LOUDER ALL THE TIME..."
YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOUR GOVERNOR'S SUPERSTITIONS! VOLCANOES RUMBLED BEFORE MAN CAME TO EARTH! IT IS NOTHING, I TELL YOU!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

AUTOMATIC FIRING BB MACHINE GUN



YOU GET ALL THIS!

- Automatic firing BB Machine Gun with swivel base
- Complete 21-piece task force selected of:
  - infantryman
  - tanks
  - gunners
  - trucks
  - cruisers
  - battleships
  - jet planes
  - bombers
  - riflemen
  - space ships
  - full supply of BBs

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

This is the newest most sensational action toy out and we're so sure that you will be delighted that we offer a full 10 day free trial. If you are not 100% satisfied simply return for full refund. You risk nothing. We know you're going to be delighted so we make this amazing offer.

A Complete Thrilling Combat Unit At Your Command

Now you can be Commander-in-Chief of this complete task force. You can destroy your enemy with space ships and bombers, tanks and trucks, battleships and cruisers, jet planes and infantrymen. Your gunners are always ready to fire at the enemy. Your BB Machine Gun can be swiveled in any direction. Simply load it with BBs and then pull the trigger. Watch your target fall as your BBs hit it. Your BB Machine Gun is powerful enough to shoot BBs as far as 100 feet. Yet it is safe enough to be used indoors. Your BB Machine Gun is powered by a quiet and safe motor. The swivel base turns in a full circle, allowing complete control over your aim. And it remarkable as it may seem, you may receive your complete task force for less than you would expect to pay for just one of the items. And you get a complete 21 piece task force of soldiers, tanks, gunners, trucks, cruisers, battleships and space ships. Plus a full supply of BBs all for only $1.00 + 25¢ shipping charges. Don't delay! Order Now!

LOOK AT THESE SENSATIONAL FEATURES!

- Complete Task Force and Space Ship Armada of your command
- Automatic firing BB Machine Gun mowing down the enemy
- All scale model replicas of the real thing
- Makes your friends toys outdated

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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Lynbrook, N. Y.

Rush me Automatic Firing BB Machine Gun and Complete Task Force. I enclose $1.00 + 25¢ shipping charges. Some money back guarantee if I am not completely satisfied. I may return it for prompt refund of full purchase price.

I enclose $1.00 + 25¢ shipping charges. Some money back guarantee if I am not completely satisfied. I may return it for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Check here if you prefer to pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

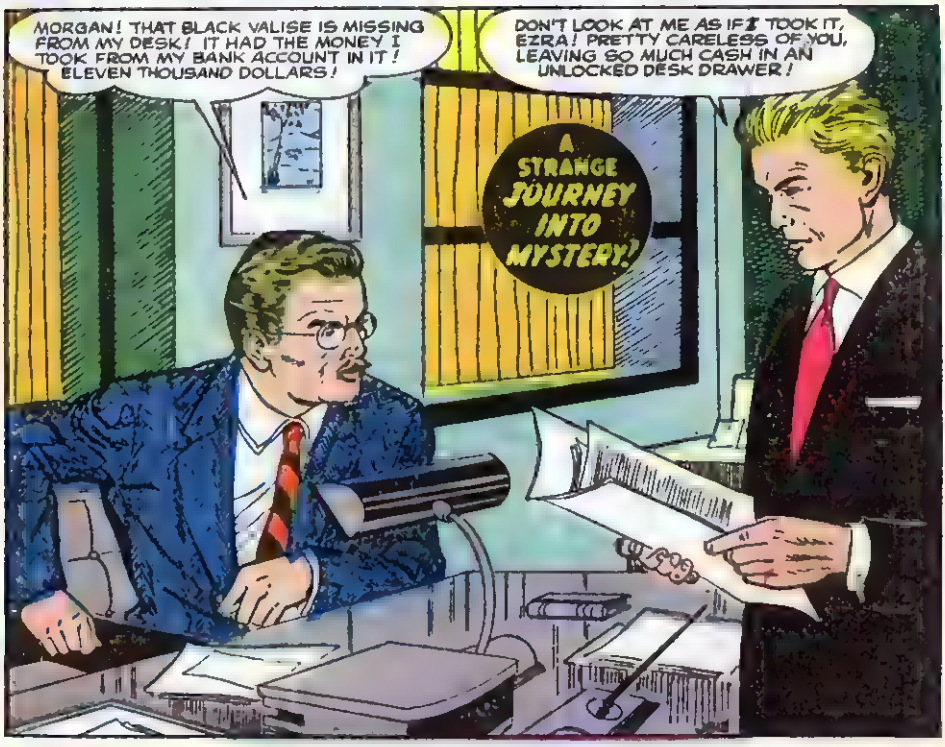
NAME _____

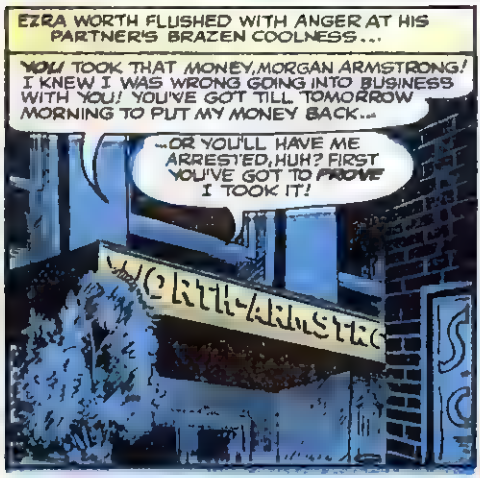
ADDRESS _____

"I HAD NOT SEEN GOVERNOR ALVAREZ APPROACH..."
AND I SAY YOU HAVE COME TO EVIL DAYS, MY PEOPLE! YOU'VE BECOME GREEDY... YOU NO LONGER TRUST ONE ANOTHER! YES, POPOCATEPETL IS ANGRY!
"THAT NIGHT, THE VOLCANO ERUPTED! FIERY LAVA ROLLED DOWN THE MOUNTAIN'S SIDES AND ENGULFED THE TOWN! I JOINED THE DAZED PEOPLE ON ANOTHER HILL..."
"SOON IT WAS ALL OVER! STRANGELY, THE ERUPTION AND FIRE HAD LASTED JUST LONG ENOUGH TO DESTROY LA PALOMA! AS I STOOD IN THE RUINS..."
WAIT! MORE EVIL WILL NOT BRING BACK OUR TOWN! I WILL TALK TO SENOR WAYNE!
I THINK IT IS BETTER THAT YOU LEAVE FOR A WHILE... GIVE THE PEOPLE TIME TO FORGET THEIR ANGER...THEN PERHAPS THEY WILL REALIZE YOU ONLY TRIED TO HELP THEM!
"I COULDN'T SPEAK... I CLIMBED IN SILENCE TO THE TUNNEL FROM WHICH I HAD COME, AND LOOKED DOWN FOR THE LAST TIME AT THE PEOPLE STANDING HELPLESSLY AMID THE ASHES..."
I SCALED THE WALLS IN MOUNT POPOCATEPETL AND EVENTUALLY MADE MY WAY BACK HERE! BUT MODERN CIVILIZATION MEANS NOTHING TO ME ANY MORE! IT'S JUST A WILDERNESS OF MEANINGLESS STONE, STEEL AND MACHINERY! SOON I'M GOING BACK TO LA PALOMA, TO HELP REBUILD IT AND TRY TO MAKE THOSE PEOPLE HAPPY AGAIN!
I KNOW JUST WHAT YOU MEAN, PAUL...BUT I'VE GOT TO HURRY BACK TO WORK...
NO, RICHARD COLVIN... I DON'T THINK YOU'LL EVER UNDERSTAND!
4

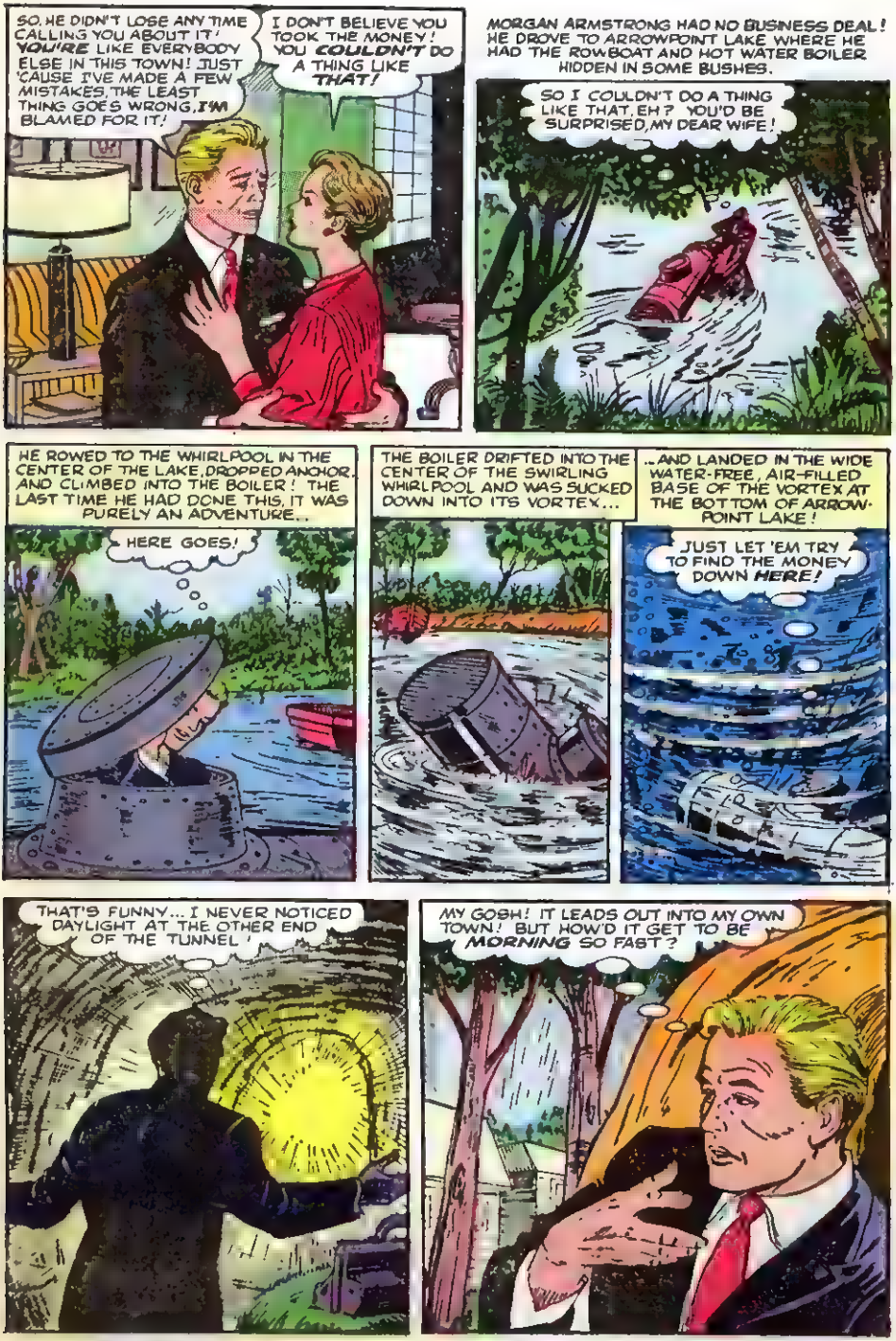
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO A PARALLEL WORLD TURNED THE TABLES ON MORGAN ARMSTRONG AND TAUGHT HIM A BADLY NEEDED LESSON!

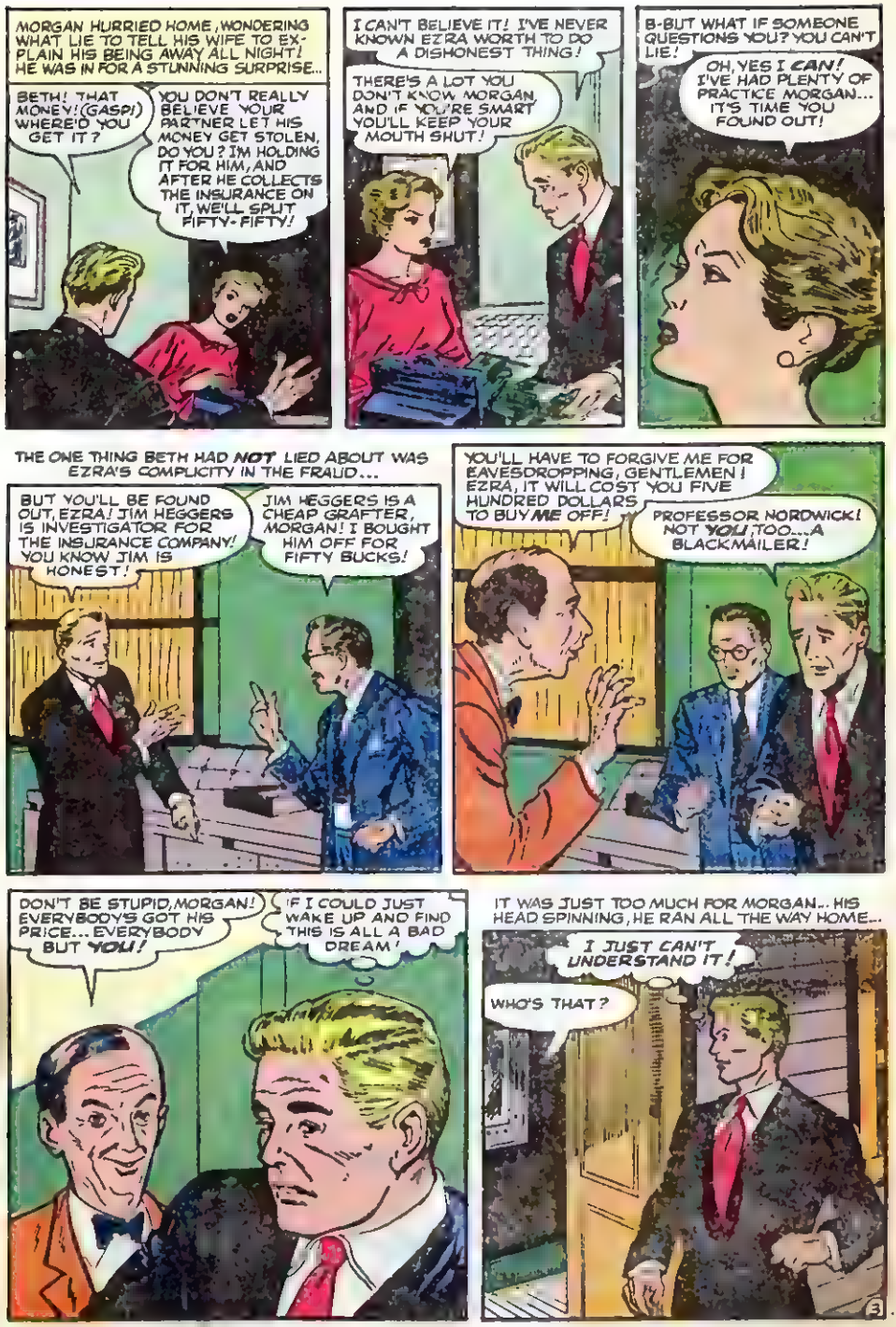
INSIDE THE WHIRLPOOL

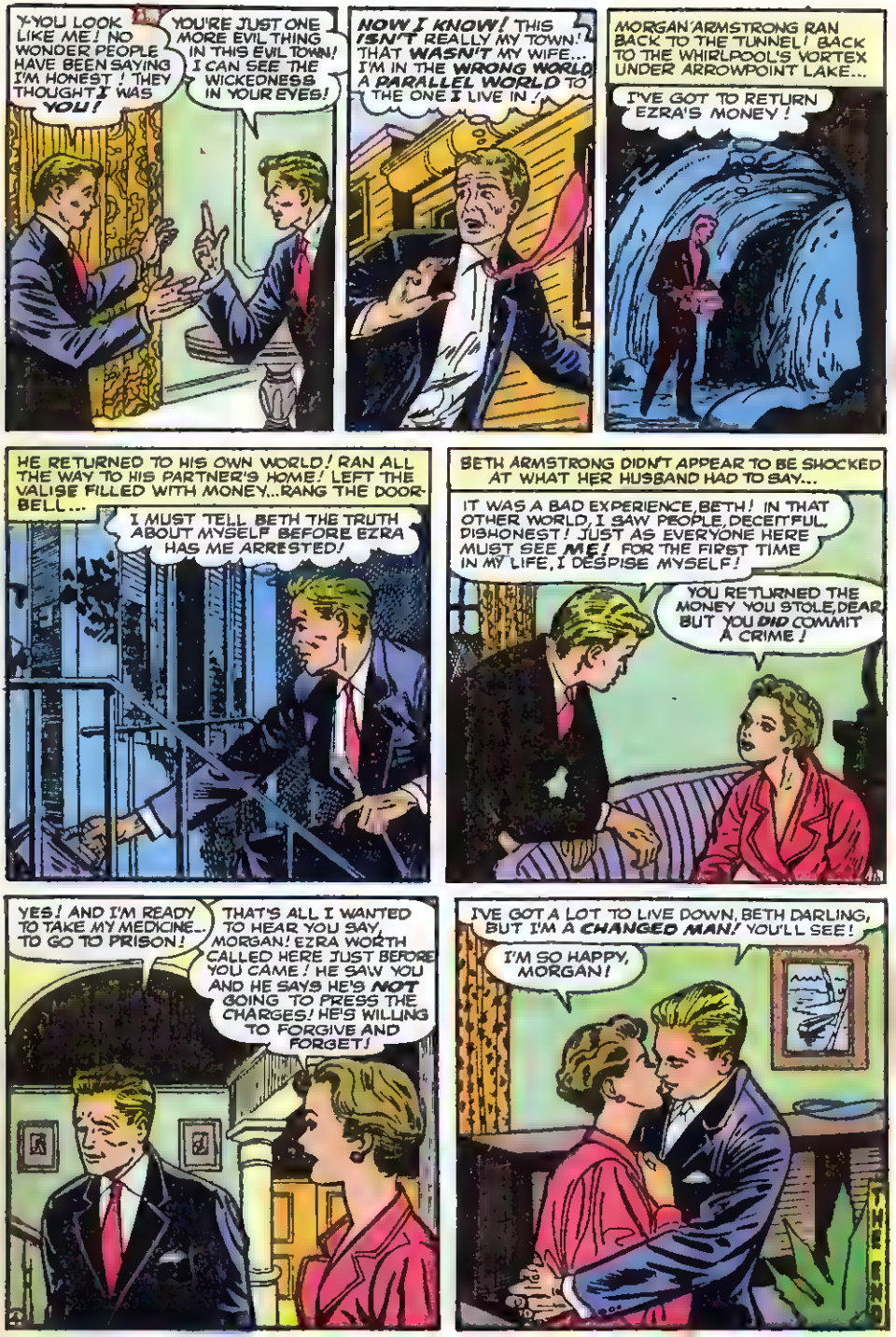

MORGAN! THAT BLACK VALISE IS MISSING FROM MY DESK! IT HAD THE MONEY I TOOK FROM MY BANK ACCOUNT IN IT! ELEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS!
DON'T LOOK AT ME AS IF I TOOK IT, EZRA! PRETTY CARELESS OF YOU, LEAVING SO MUCH CASH IN AN UNLOCKED DESK DRAWER!
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!


EZRA WORTH FLUSHED WITH ANGER AT HIS PARTNER'S BRAZEN COOLNESS...
YOU TOOK THAT MONEY, MORGAN ARMSTRONG! I KNEW I WAS WRONG GOING INTO BUSINESS WITH YOU! YOU'VE GOT TILL TOMORROW MORNING TO PUT MY MONEY BACK...
--OR YOU'LL HAVE ME ARRESTED, HUH? FIRST YOU'VE GOT TO PROVE I TOOK IT!

EZRA HAD GOOD REASON TO SUSPECT HIM! THE WHOLE TOWN OF PORTSVILLE KNEW MORGAN TO BE AN UNSCRUPULOUS MAN, A LIAR, TO WHOM ANY END HE DESIRED JUSTIFIED ANY MEANS! WELL, THAT NIGHT...
I'VE GOT TO GO OUT ON SOME BUSINESS DEAL, BETH!
BUSINESS DEAL? MORGAN, ARE YOU QUITE SURE IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT MONEY MISSING FROM EZRA WORTH'S DESK?


SO, HE DIDN'T LOSE ANY TIME CALLING YOU ABOUT IT! YOU'RE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE IN THIS TOWN! JUST 'CAUSE I'VE MADE A FEW MISTAKES, THE LEAST THING GOES WRONG, I'M BLAMED FOR IT!
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK THE MONEY! YOU COULDN'T DO A THING LIKE THAT!
MORGAN ARMSTRONG HAD NO BUSINESS DEAL! HE DROVE TO ARROWPOINT LAKE WHERE HE HAD THE ROWBOAT AND HOT WATER BOILER HIDDEN IN SOME BUSHES.
SO I COULDN'T DO A THING LIKE THAT, EH? YOU'D BE SURPRISED, MY DEAR WIFE!
HE ROWED TO THE WHIRLPOOL IN THE CENTER OF THE LAKE, DROPPED ANCHOR, AND CLIMBED INTO THE BOILER! THE LAST TIME HE HAD DONE THIS, IT WAS PURELY AN ADVENTURE...
HERE GOES!
THE BOILER DRIFTED INTO THE CENTER OF THE SWIRLING WHIRLPOOL AND WAS SUCKED DOWN INTO ITS VORTEX...
...AND LANDED IN THE WIDE WATER-FREE, AIR-FILLED BASE OF THE VORTEX AT THE BOTTOM OF ARROWPOINT LAKE!
JUST LET 'EM TRY TO FIND THE MONEY DOWN HERE!
THAT'S FUNNY... I NEVER NOTICED DAYLIGHT AT THE OTHER END OF THE TUNNEL!
MY GOSH! IT LEADS OUT INTO MY OWN TOWN! BUT HOW'D IT GET TO BE MORNING SO FAST?


MORGAN HURRIED HOME, WONDERING WHAT LIE TO TELL HIS WIFE TO EXPLAIN HIS BEING AWAY ALL NIGHT! HE WAS IN FOR A STUNNING SURPRISE...
BETH! THAT MONEY! (GASP!) WHERE'D YOU GET IT?
YOU DON'T REALLY BELIEVE YOUR PARTNER LET HIS MONEY GET STOLEN, DO YOU? I'M HOLDING IT FOR HIM, AND AFTER HE COLLECTS THE INSURANCE ON IT, WE'LL SPLIT FIFTY-FIFTY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! I'VE NEVER KNOWN EZRA WORTH TO DO A DISHONEST THING!
THERE'S A LOT YOU DON'T KNOW, MORGAN, AND IF YOU'RE SMART YOU'LL KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!
B-BUT WHAT IF SOMEONE QUESTIONS YOU? YOU CAN'T LIE!
OH, YES I CAN! I'VE HAD PLENTY OF PRACTICE MORGAN... IT'S TIME YOU FOUND OUT!
THE ONE THING BETH HAD NOT LIED ABOUT WAS EZRA'S COMPLICITY IN THE FRAUD...
BUT YOU'LL BE FOUND OUT, EZRA! JIM HEGGERS IS INVESTIGATOR FOR THE INSURANCE COMPANY! YOU KNOW JIM IS HONEST!
JIM HEGGERS IS A CHEAP GRAFTER, MORGAN! I BOUGHT HIM OFF FOR FIFTY BUCKS!
YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE ME FOR EAVESDROPPING, GENTLEMEN! EZRA, IT WILL COST YOU FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO BUY ME OFF!
PROFESSOR NORDWICK! NOT YOU, TOO...A BLACKMAILER!
DON'T BE STUPID, MORGAN! EVERYBODY'S GOT HIS PRICE... EVERYBODY BUT YOU!
IF I COULD JUST WAKE UP AND FIND THIS IS ALL A BAD DREAM!
IT WAS JUST TOO MUCH FOR MORGAN... HIS HEAD SPINNING, HE RAN ALL THE WAY HOME...
I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
WHO'S THAT?
3


Y-YOU LOOK LIKE ME! NO WONDER PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SAYING I'M HONEST! THEY THOUGHT I WAS YOU!
YOU'RE JUST ONE MORE EVIL THING IN THIS EVIL TOWN! I CAN SEE THE WICKEDNESS IN YOUR EYES!
NOW I KNOW! THIS ISN'T REALLY MY TOWN! THAT WASN'T MY WIFE... I'M IN THE WRONG WORLD A PARALLEL WORLD TO THE ONE I LIVE IN!
MORGAN ARMSTRONG RAN BACK TO THE TUNNEL! BACK TO THE WHIRLPOOL'S VORTEX UNDER ARROWPOINT LAKE...
I'VE GOT TO RETURN EZRA'S MONEY!
HE RETURNED TO HIS OWN WORLD! RAN ALL THE WAY TO HIS PARTNER'S HOME! LEFT THE VALISE FILLED WITH MONEY...RANG THE DOORBELL...
I MUST TELL BETH THE TRUTH ABOUT MYSELF BEFORE EZRA HAS ME ARRESTED!
BETH ARMSTRONG DIDN'T APPEAR TO BE SHOCKED AT WHAT HER HUSBAND HAD TO SAY...
IT WAS A BAD EXPERIENCE, BETH! IN THAT OTHER WORLD, I SAW PEOPLE, DECEITFUL, DISHONEST! JUST AS EVERYONE HERE MUST SEE ME! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I DESPISE MYSELF!
YOU RETURNED THE MONEY YOU STOLE, DEAR BUT YOU DID COMMIT A CRIME!
YES! AND I'M READY TO TAKE MY MEDICINE... TO GO TO PRISON!
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO HEAR YOU SAY, MORGAN! EZRA WORTH CALLED HERE JUST BEFORE YOU CAME! HE SAW YOU AND HE SAYS HE'S NOT GOING TO PRESS THE CHARGES! HE'S WILLING TO FORGIVE AND FORGET!
I'VE GOT A LOT TO LIVE DOWN, BETH DARLING, BUT I'M A CHANGED MAN! YOU'LL SEE!
I'M SO HAPPY, MORGAN!

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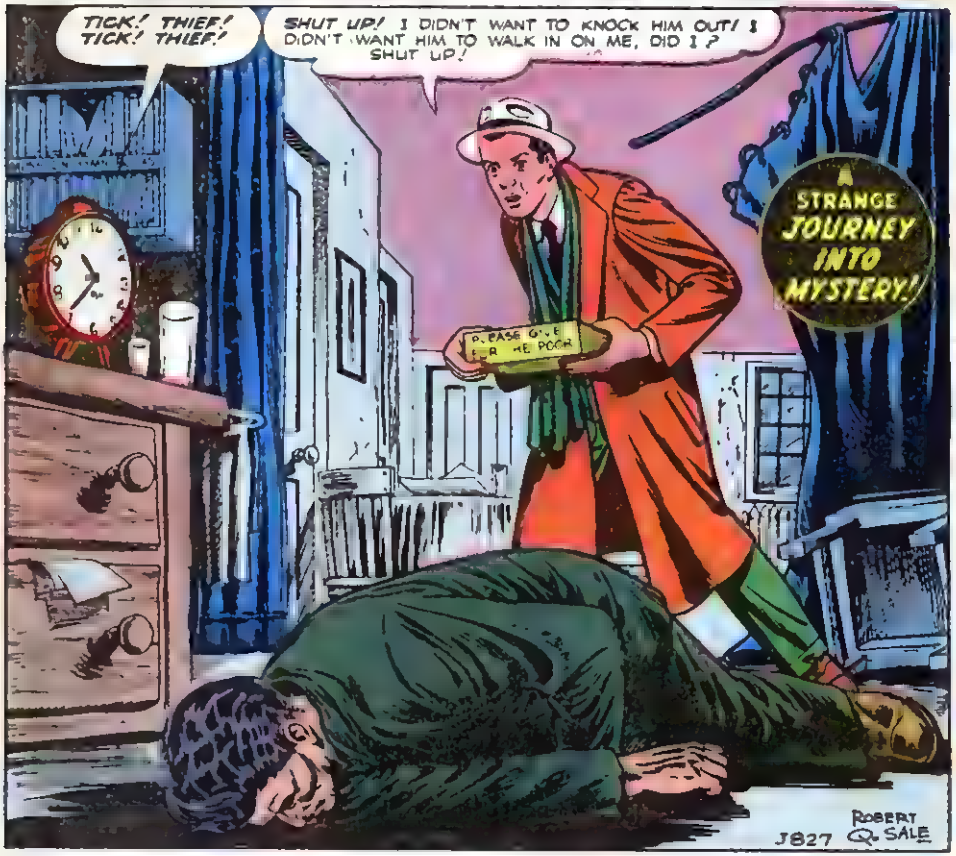
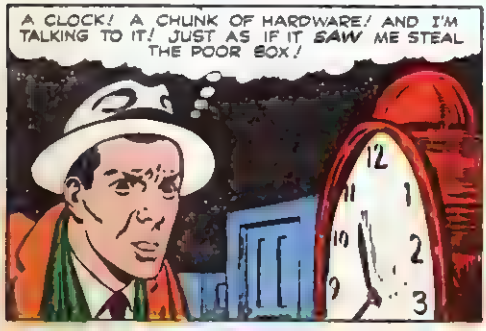
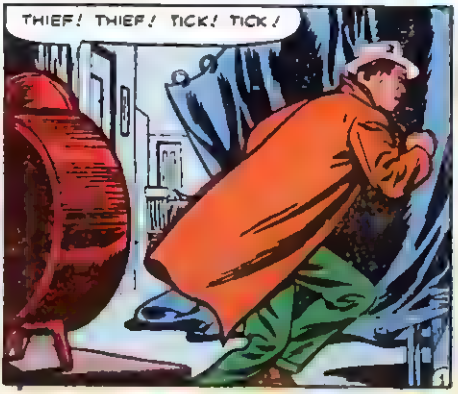
ALL CRIME IS CONTEMPTIBLE! BUT MONTE BLAKE'S CRIME WAS IN A CLASS ALL BY ITSELF! NO WONDER HE COULD NOT ESCAPE FROM...

the VOICE in the NIGHT

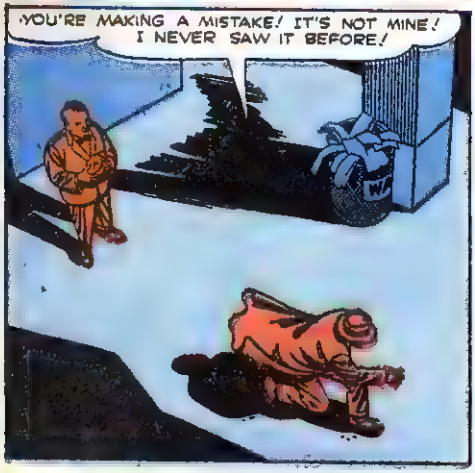

TICK! THIEF! TICK! THIEF!
SHUT UP! I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOCK HIM OUT! I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO WALK IN ON ME, DID I? SHUT UP!
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!
PLEASE GIVE FOR THE POOR
ROBERT Q. SALE
J827

JUST AFTER HE HAD STRUCK DOWN THE OLD CARETAKER, PANIC CLAMPED ABOUT MONTE BLAKE'S HEART! BUT MONTE COULD STILL THINK, THEN...HE COULD STILL REASON...

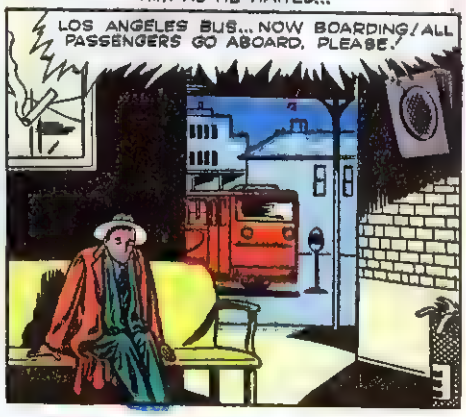




MONTE TRIED TO TURN AWAY. BUT IT TAKES A MAN TO TURN HIS BACK ON FEAR...
ALL RIGHT! SO YOU SAW ME! BUT YOU WON'T TELL ANYONE! I'LL SMASH YOU TO BITS FIRST!
SOMEONE'S COMING! THE COP ON THE BEAT! IF HE TRIES THE DOOR... I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY! OUT THE BACK DOOR AND OUT OF THIS TOWN!
MONTE RAN...WITH THE CLOCK IN HIS POCKET...
MISSION
MONTE'S ALARM WAS A GRIM SPECTER RIDING HIS SHOULDER...
THERE YOU ARE, SIR... ONE WAY TO LOS ANGELES!
TICK! TICK!
THE CLOCK! IN MY POCKET! I FORGOT!
IS SOMETHING WRONG SIR?
TICK TICK!
NO.. NO!
WASHROOM
YOU TRIED TO GIVE ME AWAY! BUT YOU WON'T! I'M LEAVING THIS TOWN! BUT YOU'RE STAYING!
2



THERE WAS NO REASON AT ALL LEFT IN MONTE, THEN! THERE WAS ONLY DISMAY... SUFFOCATING HIM AS HE WAITED...



MONTE ALMOST ESCAPED FROM THAT MADDENING ACCUSING VOICE! ALMOST...BUT NOT QUITE!
THIEF! THIEF!
OKAY! OKAY! SO YOU KNOW I HIT THE OLD MAN! I STOLE THE POOR BOX!
BUT I'LL PAY YOU OFF! I'LL SHUT YOU UP! ONCE AND FOR ALL!
MONTE FOUGHT LIKE THE CORNERED BEAST HE WAS... AND THEN IT WAS OVER...
A POOR BOX! I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS ANYONE LOW ENOUGH TO STEAL ONE OF THOSE!
YEAH! AND TALKING TO A CLOCK! IT'S A GOOD THING WE GOT TO HIM! HE NEEDS A DOCTOR, ALL RIGHT! IMAGINE HIM THINKING A CLOCK CAN TALK!
...AND A CLOCK WITH NO INSIDES, AT THAT!
4

THE OLD SHOP

ALL of the fancy clothing stores on Main Street were doing a booming business at Easter time except old Mrs. Gerrity's. Folks wondered how the poor soul managed to stay in business when they passed her shop and shook their heads in dismay at the outlandish garments she sold.

Now that holiday time had come and everyone was busy spending their dollars to buy themselves new Easter outfits, young Tom Gerrity tried to convince his mother that if she took in a line of modern fashions, she would stand a better chance of making money.

"Being old-fashioned just isn't going to get you anywhere," he told her that morning before he left for his job at the bank.

Mrs. Gerrity put her snub nose into the air and sniffed haughtily.

"You're not going to get me to change my ways after all these years, Tom. I just can't tolerate those new-fangled clothes, and I'll never sell them out of my shop."

"But you're not selling much of anything to anyone," Tom insisted. "Why, the last time the women folks stopped by here was when they needed outfits for Halloween parties or a costume ball. Doesn't that make you see how far behind the times you are?"

"I don't care," Mrs. Gerrity said stubbornly. "And by the way, Tom, did you remember to take your daily dose of Remedy Oil this morning?"

Tom Gerrity shook his bald head in dismay.

"I'm a big boy now," he told her, "and today people use vitamins to keep in shape, not Remedy Oil!" He ambled away, leaning upon his cane for support, while his old mother, still spry for ninety-some-odd years, grinned after him.

"That Remedy Oil has kept me young in spirit for all these years," she reminded him. "I'll see to it that you get your spoonful before supper time or you won't get a bite to eat!"

After he left, Mrs. Gerrity fussed with the dresses hanging in the shop. By noontime, not one customer had showed up, and she peeked from the shop window. She saw that all the stores down the street were indeed doing a terrific business. She shook her head regretfully, and as the day wore on, she had little else to do but stare out the window as the busy crowds passed by.

This was how she first came to set eyes on the little boy. He was running back and forth among the crowds, this way and that as if he was looking for someone. Then, suddenly, he seemed to slip and he fell forward landing on his head with a force that made Mrs. Gerrity wince. He looked around him as if he was stunned, but the busy shoppers passed him by, completely unaware of him.

It was at this point that Mrs. Gerrity threw an old shawl around her shoulders and ran out to see if she could help the poor boy.

"Have you hurt yourself, sonny?" she asked kindly.

He looked at her blankly.

"Aren't you a nice-looking little boy though," she said, pinching his cheek affectionately. Good heavens, she thought, in amazement, the lad's cheeks are cold as ice. The poor lad must be feeling bad.

She helped him to his feet.

"Where's your Mommy and Daddy?" she asked, but he just stared at her and put his thumb in his mouth. "Dear me, you must be lost. Let's call out and see if we can find them."

She took him by the hand and asked each passerby if he remembered seeing the little boy or who he was with, but no one could help her. It was a warm day, but suddenly she realized that the boy's hand was so cold against hers that it made her shiver. A policeman she knew very well passed by and she appealed to him.

"Officer O'Malley," she said, "this poor lad seems to be lost, and we haven't been able to find his folks anywhere. He's too young to talk, so he hasn't been of much help. Would you like me to take him into the shop and give him a cookie until you check with the police station and see if someone's put in a claim for him?"

"That would be mighty decent of you, Mrs. Gerrity," the policeman told her. "It's such a busy shopping day, though, that I'd hate to impose on you. I could take the lad and . . ."

"Oh, he'll be much happier with me," Mrs. Gerrity assured

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

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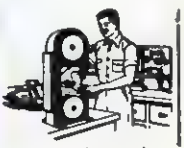

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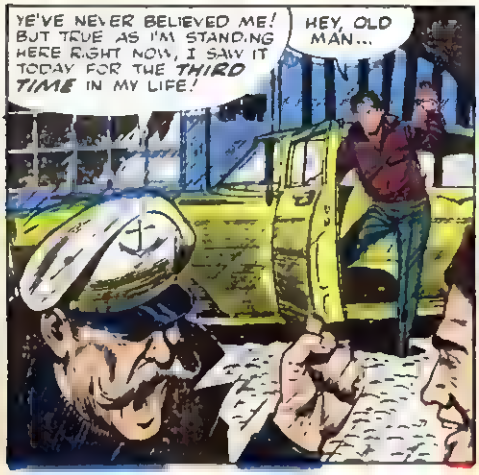
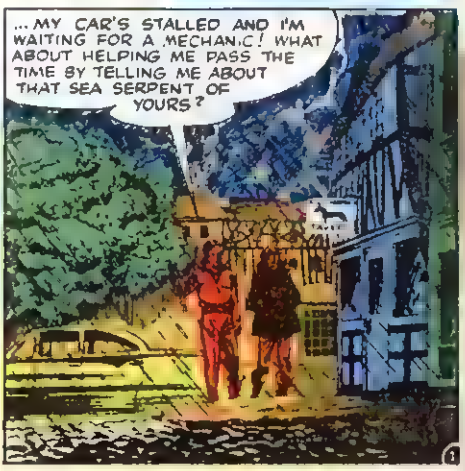
the SEA SERPENT!

I SAW IT! I TELL YE I SAW MY SEA SERPENT AGAIN... RIGHT OFF OUR BEACH!
WHAT WAS IT DOING... SUNNING ITSELF?
DID IT ASK TO BE REMEMBERED TO US?
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!

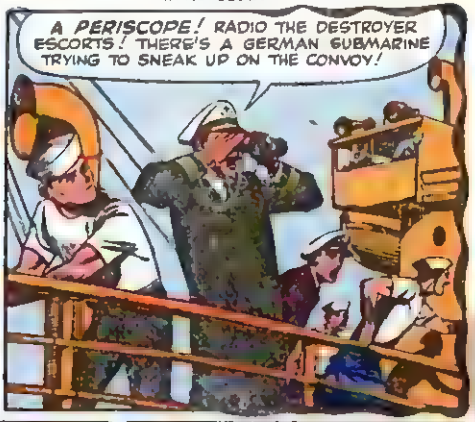



...MY CAR'S STALLED AND I'M WAITING FOR A MECHANIC! WHAT ABOUT HELPING ME PASS THE TIME BY TELLING ME ABOUT THAT SEA SERPENT OF YOURS?

I CAN SEE BY MY EYES THAT YE WON'T BELIEVE ME... BUT I'LL BE GLAD TO TELL...
"THE FIRST TIME WAS MANY YEARS AGO! I'D SHIPPED OUT AS A CABIN BOY, AND WE WERE INCHING OUR WAY THRU A BLANKET-THICK FOG..."
"THE HELMSMAN WAS THE ONE WHO SIGHTED IT FIRST!"
SEA SERPENT... DEAD AHEAD!
"SHOCK MADE HIM SWING THE WHEEL HARD!"
IT'S GONE!
B-BUT LOOK AT THAT ICEBERG! IF I HADN'T TURNED THE WHEEL JUST THEN, WE HAVE CRASHED RIGHT INTO IT!
A FULL THIRTY YEARS PASSED BEFORE I SAW IT AGAIN! I HAD MY SKIPPER'S PAPERS NOW, AND WE WERE SAILING IN CONVOY, FOR THIS WAS THE TIME OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR!
"WE WERE TWO WEEKS OUT OF PORT WHEN I HEARD THE CRY FROM THE CROW'S-NEST..."
SEA SERPENT... ON THE STARBOARD!

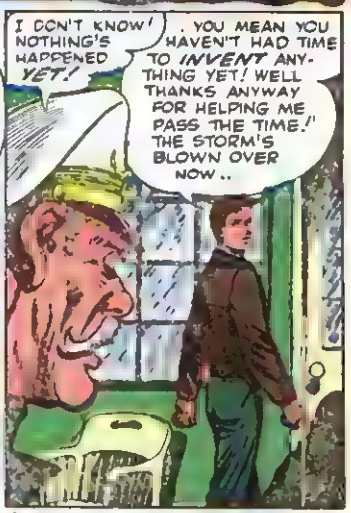
"THESE HANDS OF MINE WERE SHAKING AS I FOCUSED MY FIELD GLASSES / BUT THEN I SAW IT... CLEAR AS DAY!"

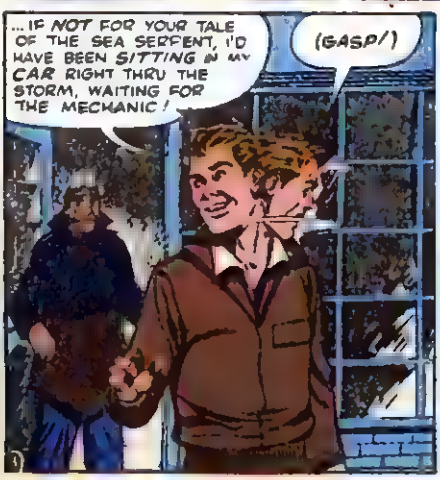
"THEN IT DIVED / BUT IN ITS WAKE, I SAW SOMETHING ELSE!"

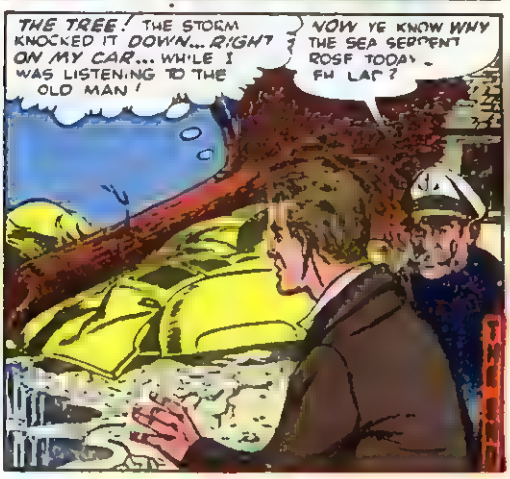


NOW I'M OLD, LONG SINCE RETIRED / I WAS SURE I'D NEVER SEE IT AGAIN / BUT TODAY, WHILE WALKING THE BEACH, I SAW IT — RIGHT IN THE SURF!
THERE'S ONE THING MISSING FROM YOUR STORY, OLD MAN!

WHAT'S THAT?
ACCORDING TO YOU, THE FIRST TWO TIMES THE SERPENT ROSE, ITS APPEARANCE RESULTED IN DISASTERS BEING AVERTED / WELL, WHY DID IT RISE TODAY? WHAT WAS TODAY'S DISASTER?


I DON'T KNOW / NOTHING'S HAPPENED YET!
. YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO INVENT ANYTHING YET! WELL THANKS ANYWAY FOR HELPING ME PASS THE TIME!/ THE STORM'S BLOWN OVER NOW..




THE TREE! THE STORM KNOCKED IT DOWN... RIGHT ON MY CAR... WHILE I WAS LISTENING TO THE OLD MAN!
NOW YE KNOW WHY THE SEA SERPENT ROSE TODAY. FH LAD?

STAMPS

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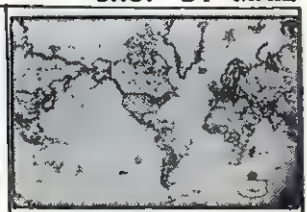

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him. "And as for it being a busy shopping day, I haven't had a soul come in the store all morning!"

"No wonder for that," Officer O'Malley thought to himself, as the good-hearted woman took the boy into her quaint shop. He then went off to the station house to inquire about the little boy and if anyone had reported him missing.

Mrs. Gerrity meanwhile was busy getting the tiny tot a chocolate cookie that she herself had baked. The heavy fudge icing drooled over the sides of the cookie, and it was a masterpiece tempting enough to delight the heart of any youngster.

To her amazement, the boy refused to eat it. Instead, he finally started to talk, and Mrs. Gerrity could hardly believe her ears.

"Two two's are four. Four four's are sixteen. Sixteen sixteen's are two fifty-six . . ." By the time the little fellow had gotten to multiply in the millions, Mrs. Gerrity had to check with paper and pencil to see if his figures were correct. And they *were!*

"Landsakes!" she exclaimed. "He's too young to talk, yet he can do his figures like a genius. There must be something wrong with him."

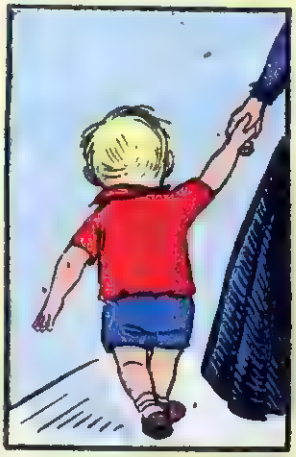
This distressed her terribly, and the more she thought about the fall he had taken, the way he was icy to the touch, and the fact that he had been the only child in her ninety-some-odd years to refuse her chocolate cookies . . . well, she knew the boy needed her immediate attention to get him back to normal. She ran for her bottle of Remedy Oil and spooned out some for the boy.

"You take this and you'll feel better," she said in a practiced voice, so firm that he dared not refuse her. He swallowed the oil, and all at once his cheeks began to glow with color. He shook his head. There was a rattling, squeaky noise and then he said, "Can I have the cookie, please?"

She was so happy that he was all right again that she hugged him in her arms and kissed him.

At that moment, the door of the shop opened and two square-faced people resembling the little boy dashed into the shop.

"Logarithm!" the mother cried. "Oh, Loggy, thank goodness you're all right. Your father and I have been looking everywhere for you. I warned



you about wandering off in this strange country. Dear me, all the things you saw in the stores must have excited you so, that you just forgot to stick close to me."

"Thank you, Madam, and forgive us for imposing," the man said to Mrs. Gerrity in a deep voice. His English was distinct, but there was the flavor of an accent that Mrs. Gerrity couldn't place. "You see, we're on a visit from Mechanica, our homeland. If you read the papers, you undoubtedly know of the marvelous work our people have been doing. We have a monopoly on what we call the precision intellect, thanks to the invention of the mechanical brain which all of us have adopted. Our brains are manufactured with an apparatus that would be similar, I guess, to your adding machines."

Mrs. Gerrity nodded. "Indeed, I can understand that now. Your boy was spouting digits a while ago that made me think I was hearing things."

The parents looked frightened.

"Dear me," the mother cried, "don't tell me he had a fall! That's the one thing we Mechanicanians must beware of! It can throw our thinking apparatus out of order and produce a terrible danger."

"This lady took care of me," Little Logarithm lisped in his piping voice. "My brain gears were locked from the fall, but she gave me a medicine that made everything right again."

"It was just a dose of my Remedy Oil," Mrs. Gerrity blushed modestly.

"Oil!" the parents cried. "Why, that's marvelous. We can thank our fractions that it was administered in the nick of time. Otherwise the mechanica brain in Logarithm might never have been able to achieve fame again."

When Loggy's parents pleaded with Mrs. Gerrity to repay her for her kindness, she had only one suggestion to make. They told her that they were sightseeing on Earth and on a shopping trip to bring back souvenirs to the Mechanicanians.

"Well, perhaps, you can use some of the dresses I have here," Mrs. Gerrity suggested.

When the Mechanicanians left, they had bought out Mrs. Gerrity's entire supply and left a standing order for future deliveries. Mrs. Gerrity was happier than any shopkeeper on Main Street. Even Tom had to admit that being old-fashioned could pay off in this ultra-modern world.

THE END J-984

IT BEGAN WITH THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING OF THE FIRST MAN-MADE SATELLITE...A TINY SPHERE WHIRLING ABOUT EARTH IN ITS OWN ORBIT! NOW MAN'S DREAM OF CONQUERING SPACE HAD BEGUN IN EARNEST... THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA WAS AT HAND!

The FIRST MAN

A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!

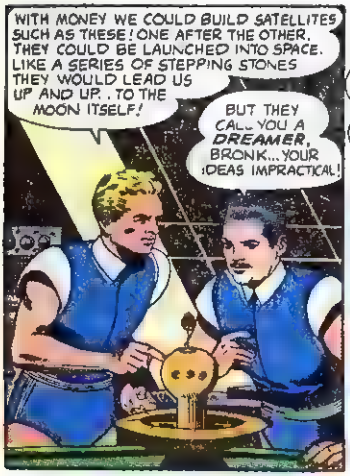
JSON

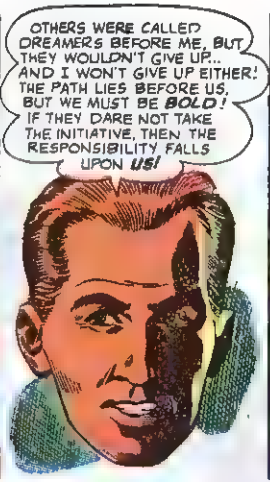
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY PASSED, WITH THE SATELLITE PROGRAM MOVING FORWARD SLOWLY, CAUTIOUSLY! THE ACCEPTANCE OF SPACE TRAVEL WAS IMPEDED BY DEBATE AND DOUBT! A NEW CHAMPION WAS NEEDED, AND IT CAME IN THE PERSON OF TAGGER BRONK...

THE NEW SATELLITE SHOWS MARKED IMPROVEMENT OVER ITS PREDECESSOR! ITS SPEED IS MORE CONSTANT AND THERE'S BEEN NO APPRECIABLE CHANGE IN ITS ORBITAL INDEX!

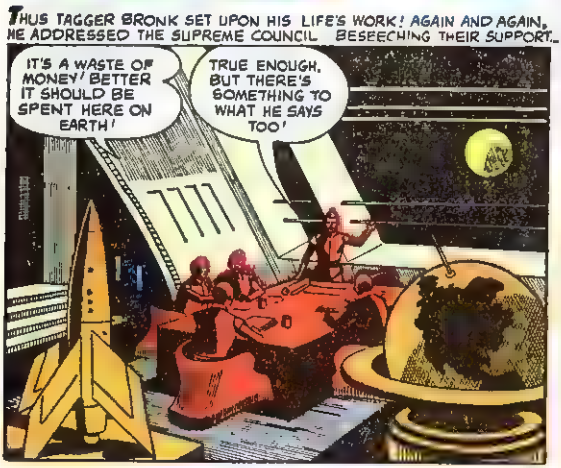
IF THEY'D ONLY LET ME, IT COULD BE DONE! ALL I NEED IS MONEY AND THE TIME! IT *CAN* BE DONE... AND IN OUR LIFETIME!

BUT THEY ARE UNWILLING TO RUSH MATTERS! GO EASY, THEY SAY!

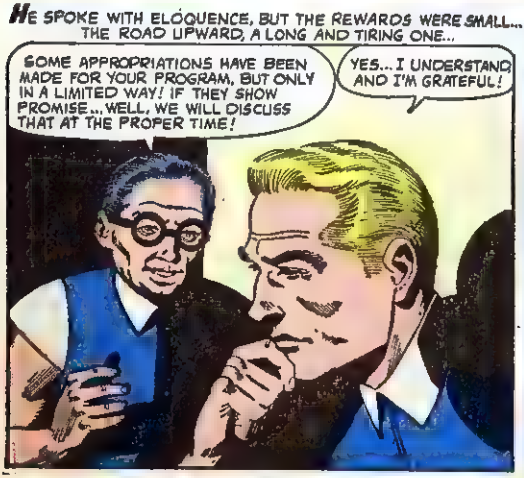

WITH MONEY WE COULD BUILD SATELLITES SUCH AS THESE! ONE AFTER THE OTHER, THEY COULD BE LAUNCHED INTO SPACE. LIKE A SERIES OF STEPPING STONES THEY WOULD LEAD US UP AND UP.. TO THE MOON ITSELF!
BUT THEY CALL YOU A DREAMER, BRONK... YOUR IDEAS IMPRACTICAL!

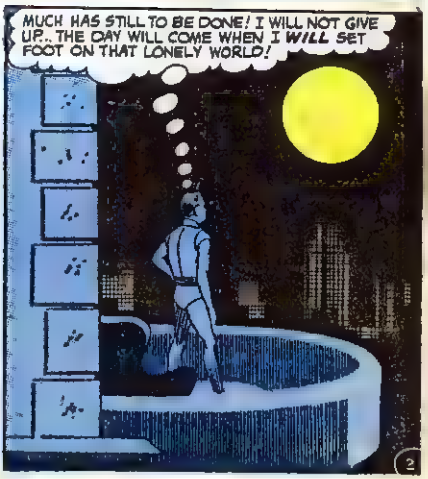

OTHERS WERE CALLED DREAMERS BEFORE ME, BUT THEY WOULDN'T GIVE UP.. AND I WON'T GIVE UP EITHER! THE PATH LIES BEFORE US, BUT WE MUST BE BOLD! IF THEY DARE NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE, THEN THE RESPONSIBILITY FALLS UPON US!

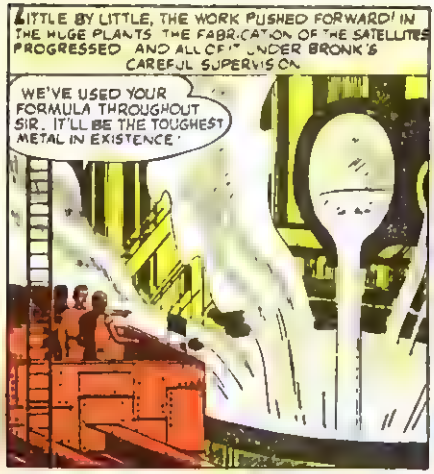
FOR ME, THERE CAN BE BUT ONE HOPE, ONE AMBITION... THE EXPANSION OF THE SATELLITE PROGRAM! SOMEDAY AN EXPEDITION WILL REACH THE MOON, AND THE FIRST TO SET FOOT UPON ITS SOIL WILL BE ME!

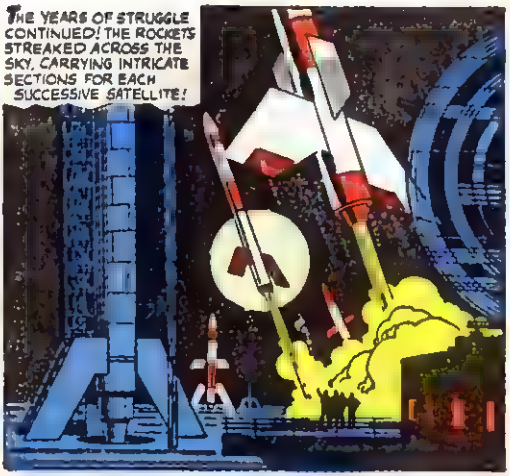

THUS TAGGER BRONK SET UPON HIS LIFE'S WORK! AGAIN AND AGAIN, HE ADDRESSED THE SUPREME COUNCIL BESEECHING THEIR SUPPORT..
IT'S A WASTE OF MONEY! BETTER IT SHOULD BE SPENT HERE ON EARTH!
TRUE ENOUGH, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING TO WHAT HE SAYS TOO!

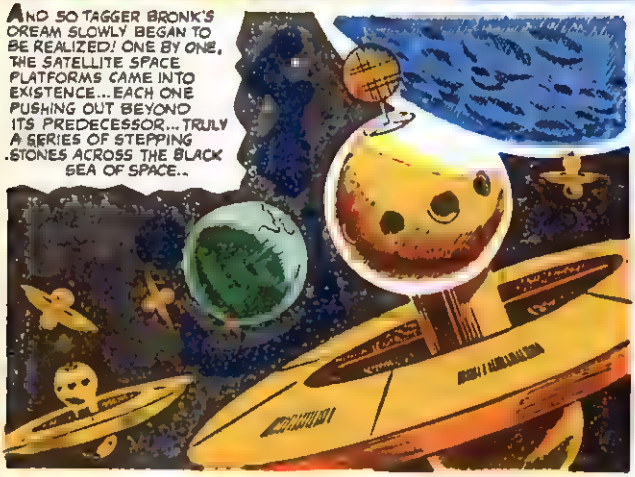
...AND IN CONCLUSION, GENTLEMEN, LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT MY PROGRAM WILL SUCCEED! THE MOON CAN BE REACHED, BUT THE SATELLITES MUST COME FIRST, TO PAVE THE WAY!


HE SPOKE WITH ELOQUENCE, BUT THE REWARDS WERE SMALL... THE ROAD UPWARD, A LONG AND TIRING ONE...
SOME APPROPRIATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR YOUR PROGRAM, BUT ONLY IN A LIMITED WAY! IF THEY SHOW PROMISE... WELL, WE WILL DISCUSS THAT AT THE PROPER TIME!
YES... I UNDERSTAND AND I'M GRATEFUL!

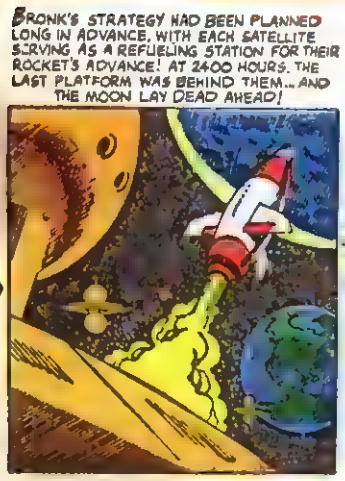

MUCH HAS STILL TO BE DONE! I WILL NOT GIVE UP.. THE DAY WILL COME WHEN I WILL SET FOOT ON THAT LONELY WORLD!


LITTLE BY LITTLE, THE WORK PUSHED FORWARD! IN THE HUGE PLANTS THE FABRICATION OF THE SATELLITES PROGRESSED AND ALL OF IT UNDER BRONK'S CAREFUL SUPERVISION
WE'VE USED YOUR FORMULA THROUGHOUT SIR. IT'LL BE THE TOUGHEST METAL IN EXISTENCE!


THE YEARS OF STRUGGLE CONTINUED! THE ROCKETS STREAKED ACROSS THE SKY, CARRYING INTRICATE SECTIONS FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE SATELLITE!


AND SO TAGGER BRONK'S DREAM SLOWLY BEGAN TO BE REALIZED! ONE BY ONE, THE SATELLITE SPACE PLATFORMS CAME INTO EXISTENCE... EACH ONE PUSHING OUT BEYOND ITS PREDECESSOR... TRULY A SERIES OF STEPPING STONES ACROSS THE BLACK SEA OF SPACE...

AND AT LAST, THE DAY OF FULFILLMENT WAS AT HAND... THE DAY THE AGING TAGGER BRONK HAD LIVED FOR.
ALL IS IN READINESS, GENTLEMEN! THE LAST SATELLITE PLATFORM IS IN PLACE!


BRONK'S STRATEGY HAD BEEN PLANNED LONG IN ADVANCE, WITH EACH SATELLITE SERVING AS A REFUELING STATION FOR THEIR ROCKET'S ADVANCE! AT 2400 HOURS, THE LAST PLATFORM WAS BEHIND THEM... AND THE MOON LAY DEAD AHEAD!

I'VE DONE IT! SOON NOW I WILL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MY LIFE'S AMBITION!

WE'RE THERE SIR! THE MOON IS DIRECTLY BELOW US!
EXCELLENT! PUT THE SHIP INTO FREE FALL! WE WILL LAND IMMEDIATELY!

DOWN THEY CAME IN GRACEFUL FLIGHT... THE CROWNING MOMENT OF ACHIEVEMENT CLOSE AT HAND...
REMEMBER, NO ONE LEAVES THE SHIP BEFORE I DO! I WILL BE THE FIRST TO SET FOOT ON THE MOON!
AND A SHORT WHILE LATER, TAGGER BRONK REALIZED HIS LIFELONG AMBITION...
I HAVE DONE IT! I HAVE REACHED THE MOON! THE FIRST HEAVENLY BODY OUTSIDE OF EARTH THAT MAN HAS EVER TOUCHED UPON!
SOON THE CREW HAD JOINED HIM, AND THEN ONE OF THE MEN CALLED OUT... HIS VOICE EMPHASIZING HIS STARTLING DISCOVERY...
LOOK, SIR. THIS SOIL IS A KIND OF POWDERED METAL!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! METAL ISN'T COMMON TO THIS LIFELESS WORLD!
LISTEN, THIS ISN'T BEDROCK WE'RE STANDING ON! IT RINGS... IT'S SOME KIND OF METAL!
IT SOUNDS HOLLOW BUT IT CAN'T BE...
CLANG! CLANG!
THEN BEFORE THEIR STARTLED EYES, METAL TRAP DOORS BURST OPEN ON ALL SIDES...
LIVING CREATURES! THE MOON IS INHABITED THE SAME AS EARTH!
THEN I WASN'T THE FIRST! I'VE BEEN WRONG ALL ALONG!
THERE IS LIFE ON THE MOON, PERHAPS AS LONG AS THERE HAS BEEN LIFE ON EARTH! THIS FACT ALONE WILL REWRITE SCIENTIFIC HISTORY!
BUT IF THE EARTHMEN WERE SHOCKED AT WHAT THEY FOUND, IT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING! AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE MOON ITSELF TURNED OUT TO BE THE VERY THING TAGGER BRONK WOULD HAVE IMAGINED...
WELCOME TO XANOU... THE FURTHERMOST SATELLITE EVER LAUNCHED BY MY PEOPLE IN OUR MARCH ACROSS SPACE!

DAVY TO THE RESCUE!
WHOOP!
HELP!
GIVEN! BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!
WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!
UH-OH!
HEY! TURN THAT GAL LOOSE!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! THAT DAVY CRICKET IS ROUGH ON INJUNS!
THANKS FOR SAVING ME FROM THOSE BULLIES, DAVY!
WANT TO SEE MY CAMP?
ACT NOW! MAIL CARD
Cameras Ukuleles Telescopes Clocks Pearls Dolls
Bibles
Dolls
Footballs
Radios
Skates
LOOK! LIVE PONY! Yessiree, a real, live Pony for your very own.
Swim Masks Swim Fins Cameras
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Rifles
GOLLY! I NEVER SAW SUCH NEAT THINGS! WHERE'D YOU GET THEM?
I EARNED 'EM IN MY SPARE TIME SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE - IT WAS EASY!
DID YA HEAR THAT GANG?!
YEAH - LET'S GIVE UP BEING INJUNS AND SEND IN THAT COUPON SO WE CAN EARN SOME SWELL PREMIUMS TOO!
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Candid Cameras, Telescopes, Watches (sent ppd.) SIMPLY GIVE pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 35c a box (with picture). Alarm Clocks, Billfolds, Bibles, Blankets, Movie Machines, Pen & Pencil Sets, Record Players, Roller Skates, Telescopes.
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